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09/656,484	09/07/2000	Francine A. Alford	IL-10518	2324

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EXAMINER	
LU, KUEN S	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	3

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/656,484	ALFORD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kuen S Lu	2177	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07 September 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/11-27-00*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 2 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claims 2 and 8-9, it recites the limitation "said first and second databases" in "a first set of data" and "a second set of data", respectively. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. The Examiner interpret the term "database" as "data set" in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 7-8, 11-12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22-23 and 29 are rejected are rejected under U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Finapps (Oracle® Applications, Concepts, Release 11 for Unix, April 1998, Oracle Corporation, hereafter "Finapp").

As per claims 1, 16 and 29, Finapps teaches the following:

"a first application system including a first set of data" at Table 2-1 where EDI is the a first application including EDI tables, indexes and sequences as the first set of data; "a second application system including a second set of data" at Fig. 3-2 where AP is the a second application including AP tables, indexes and sequences as the a second set of data;

"a first server coupled to said first and second application systems" at Fig. 1-4 where database server is the a first server coupled to the first and the second application systems;

"a central repository coupled to said server and capable of integrating said first and second sets of data to create a central repository set of data" at Page 1-3 where Forms server is the repository for all forms capable of integrating with the first and the second sets of data; and "wherein said first and second application systems are programmed in a first format and said central repository is programmed in a second format" where the first and the second sets of data are schema and the repository is the set of forms.

As per claims 7 and 18, Finapps teaches "a web server coupled to said central repository and configured to post uniform resource locators on a network which connect to said central repository set of data" at Fig. 1-3 and Page 1-5 where Web Server is implemented in the Oracle Application Tier which includes the central repository.

As per claim 8, Finapps teaches "first server is located in a first database in said first application system" at Fig. 1-1 and Page 1-2 where the DBMS contains the data set for EDI and the host system of DBMS is the server.

As per claims 11 and 20, Finapps further teaches "a central repository API which is designed to allow the first server to pass said first and second sets of data to said central repository" at Figs. 4-2 and 4-5, and Pages 4-3 and 4-6 where 'admin' directory tree under the 'Administrations Top Directory' includes EDI and AP log and out sub-directories. The sub-directories store the result and status of the concurrent program request commands execution involving data retrieved from application data sets.

As per claim 12, Finapps teaches "first application system includes online ordering information and said second application system includes vendor information" at Table 2-1 where EC and AP are the EDI gateway and Payables of financial applications, respectively. Their schemas include on-line ordering and vendor information, respectively.

As per claim 14, Finapps teaches "central repository is designed to operate under a central repository database management program" at Page 2-1 and Table 2-1 where component products included in the various TOPs directories are under the Oracle Application central database management program.

As per claim 22, Finapps teaches "passing a third set of data from a third application system to a second server, passing said third set of data from said second server to said central repository" at Figs. 1-4, 4-2 and 4-5, and Pages 4-2 and 4-6 where 'admin' directory tree under the 'Administrations Top Directory' includes the third set of data from the third set of application GL in the log and out sub-directories. The sub-directories store the result and status of the concurrent program request commands

execution involving data retrieved from application data sets. The second server is one of the concurrent processing servers; and

"integrating said third set of data with said central repository set of data to modify said central repository set of data" at Figs. 1-4, 4-2 and 4-5, and Pages 4-2 and 4-6 where GL concurrent request results are stored under the integrated TOP directory tree.

As per claim 23, Finapps teaches "passing a fourth set of data from a fourth application system to a third server; passing said fourth set of' data from said third server to said central repository; and integrating said fourth set of data with said central repository set of data to modify said central repository set of data" at Figs. 1-4, 4-2 and 4-5, and Pages 4-2 and 4-6 where 'admin' directory tree under the 'Administrations Top Directory' includes the forth set of data from the fourth set of application JE in the log and out sub-directories. The sub-directories store the result and status of the concurrent program request commands execution involving data retrieved from application data sets. The third server is one of the concurrent processing servers in the database tier; and "integrating said third set of data with said central repository set of data to modify said central repository set of data" at Figs. 1-4, 4-2 and 4-5, and Pages 4-2 and 4-6 where JE concurrent request results are stored under the integrated TOP directory tree.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2-6, 9-10, 13, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26-28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finapps (Oracle® Applications, Concepts, Release 11 for Unix, April 1998, Oracle Corporation, hereafter "Finapp"), as applied to claims 1 and 16, and further in view of Finadm (Oracle® Applications, System Administrator's Guide, Release 11 for Unix, March 1998, Oracle Corporation, hereafter "Finadm").

As per claims 2 and 17, Finapps teaches a plurality of applications including a set of data each as described in Item 2.

Finapps does not teach "a first table located between said first and second databases and said first server and configured to pass commands between said first and second application systems and said first server".

However, Finadm teaches using table for storing concurrent requests of commands from user application and transferring the execution of the requests to concurrent application manager which spawns the execution of the commands of the requests as described in Page 7-2 and Fig. 7-1.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention was made to combine Finadm's reference with Finapps' by describing the feature of Oracle Financial Application system's concurrent processing in the Concepts manual because by doing so some of the most important features of the Finapps system would have been described together for providing users of Finapps a single source of reference. Furthermore, users of EDI application would have been

aware of requesting their AP requests could have been submitted through the concurrent processing.

As per claim 3, Finapps teaches "an administrator server coupled to said first server and configured to continue operation when the central repository is disabled" at Fig. 1-8 where Administration Server establishes connection to database server and coupled to the forms server where the administrative server operates independent of the forms repository server even if the forms repository is disabled.

As per claim 4, Finapps teaches the following:

"a third application system including a third set of data" at Fig. 3-2 where ENG is the a third application system including its tables, indexes and sequences as the a third set of data.

Finapps does not teach "a second table coupled to said third application system and configured to receive commands from said third application system".

However, Finadm teaches using table for storing concurrent requests of commands from user application and transferring the execution of the requests to concurrent application manager which spawns the execution of the commands of the requests as described in Page 7-2 and Fig. 7-1.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention was made to combine Finadm's reference with Finapps' by describing the feature of Oracle Financial Application system's concurrent processing in the Concepts manual because by doing so some of the most important features of the Finapps system would have been described together for providing users of Finapps a

single source of reference. Furthermore, users of ENG application would have been aware of their ENG requests could also be submitted through the concurrent processing.

As per claim 5, Finadm further teaches "first server is configured to operate in an object oriented programming language" at Page 24-29 by using JavaScripts to modify or create Help Links.

As per claim 6, Finadm further teaches "object oriented programming language is Java@" at Page 24-29 by using JavaScripts to modify or create Help Links.

As per claim 9, Finapps teaches "administrator server is located in a first database in said first application system" at Fig. 1-4 and Page 1-8 where administration server is connected to the database comprising the data sets.

As per claim 10, Finadm further teaches "an administrator commands table coupled said administrator server and configured to pass commands between said administrator server and said first table" at Fig. 7-1 and Page 7-2 where concurrent request table is the administrator commands table.

As per claim 13, Finapps teaches "third application system includes engineering records" at Page 2-2 and Table 2-1 where the application ENG is Oracle Engineering whose schema includes engineering records.

As per claim 21, Finadm further teaches "first and second set of data are passed to said first table in the form of a first set of commands and parameters" by using table for storing concurrent requests of commands from user application and transferring the execution of the requests which contain command and parameters, to concurrent

application manager which spawns the execution of the commands of the requests as described in Page 7-2 and Fig. 7-1.

As per claim 24, Finadm further teaches "polling said first table by said first server" at Page 7-2, Paragraph 'Concurrent Managers start concurrent programs' where concurrent manager reads request from the table for executing the requests.

As per claim 19, Finapps teaches "accessing said central repository set of data from a web server; and displaying said central repository set of data on a website" at Fig. 1-3 and Page 4-10 where web and self-service web servers are implemented in the Application tier for allowing the concurrent request status log and output result be viewed in the web page format.

As per claims 26-28 and 30, Finapps teaches the follwing:

"creating a first set of data in a first application system" at Table 2-1 where EDI is the a first application including EDI tables, indexes and sequences as the first set of data;

"creating a second set of data in a second application system" at Fig. 3-2 where AP is the a second application including AP tables, indexes and sequences as the a second set of data;

"passing said first and second sets of data to a first server" at Fig. 1-4 and Page 1-8 where data set in the application is transferred from database to the concurrent processing servers through Oracle Net8;

"passing said first and second sets of data from said first server to a central repository" at Fig. 1-4 where database server is the a first server coupled to the first and the second application systems; and "integrating said first and second sets of data in said central

repository database to form a central repository set of data" at Page 1-3 where Forms server is the repository for all forms capable of integrating with the first and the second sets of data;

Finapps does not specifically teach configuring server for running an object broker.

However, Finadm teaches JavaScripts to modify or create Help Links at Page 24-29.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention was made to combine Finadm's reference with Finapps' by describing the feature of Oracle Financial Application system's Java application capability in the Concepts manual because by doing so the object oriented features implemented in the Finapps system would have been described together for providing users of Finapps a single source of reference and application development.

4. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Finapps (Oracle® Applications, Concepts, Release 11 for Unix, April 1998, Oracle Corporation, hereafter "Finapp"), as applied to claims 1 and 14, and further in view of LiveLink (Using Meta Data to Automate XML Document Production and Maintenance, May 1998, hereafter "LiveLink").

As per claim 15, Finapps teaches a central repository management program as described in Item 2.

Finapps does not teach "central repository database management program is Livelink@".

However, LiveLink teaches using publishing software LiveLink to resolve link coding problem as described in Page 3.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention was made to combine LiveLink's reference with Finapps' by utilizing LiveLink paradigm for Oracle Application reporting programming because by doing so the application programming involving meta information embedded in the XML pages would have been more efficient due to more automation of hyperlink coding without human intervention.

5. Claim 25 is rejected are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orapur (Oracle® Purchasing User's Guide, Release 11 for Unix, March 1998, Oracle Corporation, hereafter "Orapur") and further in view of Finadm (Oracle® Applications, System Administrator's Guide, Release 11 for Unix, March 1998, Oracle Corporation, hereafter "Finadm").

As per claim 25, Orapur teaches the following:

"creating a requisition order in a first database" at Page 3-16 by defining a requisition order;

"passing said requisition order to an order folder in a first commands table" at Page 3-28 by submitting concurrent process through Order Entry/Shipping form where an entry is created to the concurrent process table;

"polling said first commands table by a first server" at Page 3-28 by submitting concurrent process through Order Entry/Shipping form where an entry is created to the concurrent process table and processed by the server;

"passing said requisition order from said first commands table to said first server" at Page 3-28 by submitting concurrent process through Order Entry/Shipping form where an entry is created to the concurrent process table and processed by the server; and "passing said requisition order to a central repository using central repository API protocols and forming a requisition order folder in said central repository" at Page 3-34 by on-line processing automation for internal requisitions which submits a request to the concurrent process which returns result and status log in the out/log subdirectories of the purchasing directory tree.

Orapur does not specifically teach "transforming said requisition order into an object oriented programming language" or "passing said requisition order to a web server".

However Finadm teaches application developed by object oriented programming language at Page 24-29 by using JavaScripts to modify or create Help Links and web server at Fig. 1-3 and Page 1-5 where Web Server is implemented in the Oracle Application Tier which hosts the central repository.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention was made to combine Finadm's reference with Orapur's by describing the feature of Oracle Financial Application system's Java application and web service capability in the Oracle Purchasing manual because by doing so the object oriented programming language and web service features implemented in the Orapur system would have been described together for providing users of Orapur a single source of reference and application development.

Conclusions

5. The prior art made of record

U. Oracle® Applications, Concepts, Release 11 for Unix, April 1998, Oracle Corporation

V. Oracle® Applications, System Administrator's Guide, Release 11 for Unix, March 1998, Oracle Corporation

W. Using Meta Data to Automate XML Document Production and Maintenance, May 1998

X. Oracle® Purchasing User's Guide, Release 11 for Unix, March 1998, Oracle Corporation

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuen S Lu whose telephone number is 703-305-4894. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Kuen S. Lu

Patent Examiner

March 29, 2004

JOHN BREENE
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